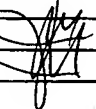


Substitute for form 1449 A & B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				<i>Complete if Known</i>	
				Application Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Confirmation Number	Not Yet Assigned
				Filing Date	December 28, 2001
				First Named Inventor	NAKAMURA, MASAOKI
				Art Unit	Not Yet Assigned 1774
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned GRM
Sheet 1 of 1				Attorney Docket Number	Q67901

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)		
		US 3,642,930		02-15-1972	Grasselli et al.
		US 4,872,932		10-10-1989	Yoshikawa et al.
		US			
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Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
		JP	59-53780		03-28-1984		No
		JP	62-110968		05-22-1987		No

OTHER PRIOR ART - NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶
		Patent Abstracts of Japan abstracting 61-287932 published 12-18-1986	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan abstracting 61-291628 published 12-22-1986	
		Patent Abstracts of Japan abstracting 3-90674 published 04-16-1991	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/05
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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov, MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.

Substitute for Form 1449 A & B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (use as many sheets as necessary) APR 16 2004 PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE		Application Number	10/019,250
		Confirmation Number	1287
		Filing Date	December 28, 2001
		First Named Inventor	Masaaki NAKAMURA
		Art Unit	1733 1774
		Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned GRN
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	Q67901

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code ³ (if known)		
		US			
		US			
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		US			
		US			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation ⁶
		Country Code ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			
JH		EP	0 872 511	A2	10-21-1998	Bridgestone Corp.	

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation ⁶

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	3/05
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